the Cruiser Maria Teresa.

NEW YORK, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1900. COPYRIGHT, 1900. BY THE SUN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

elaborate designs among the powers for suc-MOVING TO CRONJE'S AID.

SEVERAL THOUSAND BOERS LEAVE NATAL-BULLER'S HARD FIGHTING,

Blow Advance Against the Determined Opposition of the Remaining Boers-Reports Heavy Loss of Officers - Cronje Now Said to Have Had Only 4,000 Men When Surrounded-His Defences

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 27.-No decisive change has been reported from any part of the theatre of war. Gen. Cronje, according to the latest despatches received here, none of which, however, is of more recent date than Sunday, is still holding h's position, and, apparently, has not lost hope of holding it until relief arrives. Time works in his favor. It is reported from Lorenzo Marques that 5,000 burghers have left Ladysmi h for the Orange Free State and re-ploreements are passing through Bloemfontein hourly, concentrating thirty miles from the Free State capital.

It is not doubted here that a desperate effort is impending or already begun to help out Gen. Cronte, the hopelessness of whose position, it may be recalled, has only been asserted by newspaper correspondents. Gen. Roberts has sertainly never asserted that the Boer leader's escape or deliverance was impossible.

The correspondents, in their latest mesages say that prisoners, who continue to arrive at the British camp, assert that Gen. Cronje's force numbers 4,000 men, explusive of the losses that have been sustained.

Gen. Buller continues to meet the severes resistance, as his heavy casualties testify, So far he seems to be creeping slowly forward, each day's fighting closely resembling another's. The situation on the morning of Sunday is thus described by the correspondent of the Morning Post: "Co lenso is now our rallway base. Our further advance is confronted by the formidable Pieters position stretching from the lofty, waterless hills of Doorn Kop and around Grobler's Kloof to the river. The advance is now being pur-und in face of the most stubborn opposition and heavy loss, but the devotion and spirits of all ranks are admirable, nor will the loss of life discourage the soldiers. The men have set their hearts on relieving Ladysmith.

The correspondent proceeds to describe the operations on Friday, the feature of which was dashing assault by the Irish Brigade on the second tier of hills forming part Pieters position, in the Inniskilling Fustliers, the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaught Rangers displayed the greatest contempt of danger and death, and, after losing very heavily, both in officers and men, without being able to prevail, lay on the hillside, building such stone shelters as were possible and stubbornly refusing to

A despatch to the Daily News from Colenso referring to the losses sustained by the Somersetshire Regiment, as mentioned in Gen. Buller's despatch, says that that regiment was a little too venturesome. The Somersets took a kopie ver near the enemy, who poured a deadly rifle and shrappel fire into them. Nevertheless the Somersets held the hill until dark. The despatch adds that the town of Colenso is completely wrecked. All the spans of the bridge have been destroyed. A temporary footbridge is fattened from pier to pier.

A despatch to the same paper from Lorenzo Marques states that President Stern has telegraphed to President Kruger saying that Gen. Roberts is within a few hours' march of Bloomfontein, and urging that every male, irrespective of nationality, be commandeered. The despatch then adds that President Steyn

favors peace. The same correspondent states that the Boer general who commanded at enso sent a message to President Kruger as nouncing that he had been defeated, and commending that overtures be made for poace.

berg, dated Feb. 23, which confirms the report o. the concentration of burghers. It says that the investment of Gen. Cronje is rapidly drawing the Boers together from every quarter Boveral thousand are now hovering in the

neighborhood of Paardeberg. A despatch to the Morning Post from Mafeking, under date of Feb. 16, indicates that there is little change in the position there, unless that statement that "the firing has become very victous and the bullets are falling everywhere to-day" implies that the situation of the besieged town is becoming worse. The tone of the despatch is cheerful. It ends by eaying that all is well.

The Times correspondent at Mafeking, in despatch dated Feb. 12. represents Commandant Snyman as being much shocked by the manner in which the British spend the Sabbath, they using the only day in the week that the slege leaves free for sports, cricket, concerts and dances. Commandant Snyman, according to the correspondent, has written a letter which he says he will not continue to observe the Sunday armistice as litherto, and that he will fire when the garrison indulge in "such unholy practices."

# FLEET WILL NOT BE MOBILIZED. Mr. Goschen Discusses the Naval Estimates

Special Cable Despatch to THE SU LONDON, Feb. 26.-The Rt. Hon. George J Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, stated in the House of Commons to-day that the amount of money necessary for the mobilization of the fleet had not been included in the naval estimates. The Government, he said. did not think the time had come for taking that step, and he hoped it would not be necessary to take any such action.

In introducing the navy estimates, which amount to £27,500,000, an increase of £930,000 over 1809, Mr. Goschen said there had beer continuity in the policy of the Government. The absence of sensationalism might disappoint some people, he said, but the department was prepared to meet public expectation. As an administrative measure and one not threatening anybody, the ships of the reserve squadron would be brought together and sent under command of a Rear Admiral to get practice in working together.

Mr. Goschen stated that Great Britain now had 258 sea-going ships and 56,000 mendouble the number of men and one hundred more ships than she had in 1889. The appropriation for guns, he said, included provision for new 4.7-inch and 112-pound guns.

Under the reserve scheme, Mr. Goschen said, the quality of the men would be improved, as the naval reservists would be compelled to go to sea for six months on a man-of-

Mr. Goschen declared that with a total of 40,000 pensioners and 115,000 men on the active list the Government was entitled to call out over 150,000 men in case of emergency. Efforts had been made, he said, to organize a reserve in the colonies, which should prove a valuable contingent. Some difficulties had arisen in the negotiations with Australia on this point, but when federation was achieved he looked for more favorable results. With Canada more progress had been made in that direction and there was more hope of success. Mr. Goschen sail that the reduction of asmaments of the Lowers which seemed probable at the time of the Hague Peace Conference had not come about. On the contrary here were signs of more gigantic and more

essive increases in armament.

France, like England, Mr. Goschen said, had abandoned the plan of constructing third-class cruisers of great speed and small dimensions. It was thought that these vessels would not answer the purpose for which they were in tended, although Russia was proceeding to build ships of this kind.

Mr. Goschen stated of the amount voted in 1890 the sum of £1,400,000 was unexpended The reason of this was the inability of British industries to turn out more ships. The naval programme for the coming year was, therefore, limited by the possibilities to the building of two battleships, six armored cruisers and one unarmored vessel.

#### CRONJE'S MEN WELL INTRENCHED. Boer Snipers Along the River Bank Inflict Some Losses on the British.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. From THE SUN's Correspondent With Gen. Roberts's Forces.

PAARDEBERG, Feb. 22, via Modder River, Feb. 25, 6 P. M.-The British cavalry division went twelve miles to the east yesterday and seattered and destroyed several parties of Boers

who were trying to escape. There was intermittent firing from the big British guns throughout the night while the engineers were building trenches toward the Boer position around the laager.

. The Boer trenches are constructed in a necultar manner. They are narrow at the top and wide at the bottom and afford the men shelter from the artillery fire on either side of the river.

There was some sniping on the river bank The Boer reenforcements have failed to break through the British lines of investment around

the Boer laager. The situation has been comparatively quiet since vesterday [Wednesday] noon, when there was a sharp engagement. The British casualties resulted from the fire of Boer snipers along the river side. These snipers near the drift and along the banks of the river have not yet been dislodged.

# RECORD OF BRITISH LOSSES.

There Have Been 1.651 Killed, 6.289 Wounded and 2,862 Are Missing.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 26.-In reply to a question in the House of Commons to-day Mr. Joseph Powell-Williams, Financial Secretary to the War Office, gave the following as the British casualties in South Africa up to Feb. 25: Killed-Officers, 161; non-commissioned offi-

cers and men. 1.490. Wounded-Officers, 494; non-commissioned officers and men. 5,795.

Missing and believed to be prisoners-Officers, 193; men, 2,669. The War Office has issued a list of casualties at Paardeberg on Feb. 19. The British had 5 killed and 21 wounded. An additional list of

the losses on Feb. 18 shows 9 killed, 44 wound-The following list of casualties among Gen Buller's troops on Feb. 20 is issued. Killed, 12: wounded, 100; missing, 2. The casualties were mostly in the Somerset Regiment. On Friday and Saturday Gen. Buller lost 8 officers killed and 23 wounded. The loss of men is not re-

# DAYS OF THANSGIVING.

Transvent Set Apart Feb. 25 and 27 for Prayer and Rejoicing.

ported.

Special Cable Despatch to Tun Sun. LONDON, Feb. 26 .- A despatch to the Time from Lorenzo Marques of resterday's date says: "The Pretoria Government has proclaimed Feb. 25 and Feb. 27 days of thanks-

"Robinson's bank has been reopened and the sh and securities wh the Transvaal Government have been restored. "There is a great rush of foreigners toward the Transvaal."

#### CONFOUND PRECAUTION WITH PANIC. Lord Rosebery Says England's Danger Lies in Under-Preparation.

Special Cable Desputch to THE SUN Loxpon. Feb. 26.-In a letter to a correspon

dent, dated Feb. 25, Lord Rosebery said: "The Government seems to confound precaution with panic. They consider that there is danger in over-preparation. I hold that the danger lies in under-preparation, but I hope they are right."

#### FIREBUG ON A BRITISH TRANSPORT. Lamp Trimmer Arrested After a Secon Attempt to Burn the Maori King.

Special Cable Despatch to THE BUN. CAPE Town, Feb. 24 .- A second attempt to set fire to the Australian transport Maori King was made while the vessel was off Madagascar. A lamp trimmer was arrested on suspicton. Fifty British officers and men have been sent to Wallfisch Bay where, it is reported, muni-

### tions of war are being landed for the Boers. Gen. Macdonald's Wound Not Serious.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN LONDON. Feb. 26.-A private telegram to Mr. W. Macdonald, a brother of Gen. Hector Macdonald, states that the latter's wound is not serious, and that he will soon be fit for service again. A Mauser bullet struck him in the leg below the knee-cap and travelled upward. emerging just below the hip.

Profits of the Kimberley Mines. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 26 .- At the meeting of the De Beers Mining Company in Kimberley, Mr. Cecil Rhodes, who presided, stated that the profits of the company for the year were roughly estimated at £2,000,000.

England's Demand for Mourning Station ery.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN LONDON, Feb. 16.-Stationers here say the demand for mourning paper is greater now than at any time since the cholera epidemic of

#### BOYCOTT ON ENGLISH RESIDENT . The French of St. Pierre Miquelon Incensed

Over the Fisheries Modus Vivendi. St. Johns, N. F., Feb. 26 .- The French residents of St. Pierre Miquelon are incensed at the passage by the Colonial Legislature of

the Modus Vivendi Extension bill and are terrorizing the British residents. The French counted on the bill being rejected, and had all plans made for erecting a number of lobster factories on the Newfoundland treaty shore, with the idea that when the lobster question was arbitrated they would receive compensation for their property at an excessive valuation. The Colonial action spoils this game, which, it is believed, owed its inspiration to men high in authority in France, the object being to provoke such friction with England as would embroil that power with France, when the former was at disadvantage as in the present war.

France, when the former was at disadvantage as in the present war.

The disappointment at St. Pierre finds vent in boycotting the English, who form one-third of the population. These threatening manifestations began on We thesday, when the news of the passage of the bill was received, and have been increased since by the reports of British successes in South Arica. Leading British residents are threatened with violence and their residences stoned. The Newfoundland authorities are powerless to interfere and the English Government has been notified.

Two Solid Vestibule Trains Through to Atlantic City.

ANTI-BRITISH PLOT FAILS.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA UNABLE TO REOPEN THE EGYPTIAN QUESTION.

Sultan Rejects Their Overtures-Kaiser's Influence at Constantinople Exerted in England's Favor-M. Constans's Visit to Paris Explained-May Renew the Effort.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Paris, Feb. 26.-The correspondent of THE

Sux has received from a high diplomatic source, not French, which is entitled to respect and credence, information which fully explains the gloomy forebodings of English statesmen a fortnight ago and the consequent failure of British successes in South Africa to words of THE SUN's informant, as near as it is possible to give them, were as follows:

The presence in Paris of M. Constans, French Ambassador to Turkey, is generally attributed to personal reasons. The truth is that he came to report to the Government the issue of a grave mission on which he is engaged at Constantinople. He had been endeavoring for several weeks, under instructions from Paris, to induce the Sultan to reopen the Egyptian question.

Russian influence supported M. Constans. The reports that the Czar had resolved to deal gently with England are entirely misleading. He not only brought strong pressure on the Porte in favor of the French scheme, but sought strenuously to secure important railway concessions in Asia Minor. Russian influence in Persia, moreover, is supreme, now that Russia has guaranteed the loan made by

Nevertheless, M. Constans was obliged to report failure. The Sultan not only refused to lend himself to the schemes of the Dual Alliance, but ordered his agents in Egypt to avoid raising difficulties in Great Britain's way. He also assured Lord Salisbury that he would not favor Russia's views in Asia Minor.

The Sultan's motive in refusing to support France and Russia was not fear of a further extension of Russian influence in Anatolia and still less was he moved by affection for Great Britain. He was actuated solely by the wishes of Emperor William, whose influence in Constantinople is now greater than ever.

M. Constans will soon return and renew his efforts, but he is chagrined by his first failure He has, indeed, intimated to his closest friends his desire for the Premiership of France if M. Waldeck-Rousseau falls. This suggestion followed two or three recent votes in the Chamber of Deputies which indicate that the tenure of the present Cabinet is precarious. It is already in the air that there will be a Constans Ministry before the Exhibition opens.

# SYMPATHY FOR CANADA.

Sir Alfred Milner and the Governor of New South Wales Send Messages.

OTTAWA, Ont., Feb. 26.-The following cable message was received by Lord Minto to-day from the Governor of New South Wales: "The Premier on behalf of the people of New

South Wales, desires to express deep sympathy with the people of Canada in the loss of so many of her valuable and gallant sons."

Sir Alfred Milner, in cabling to-day the corrected list of Canadian casualties, added the following tribute to the valor of the Canadians:
"I wish to express to you the great admiration which is felt here for the noble shareborne by Canadians in the late engagements."

#### ACTIVE VOLCANOES IN AFRICA. Enormous Streams of Lava Destroying Forest and Animal Life-Cannibals' Work.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, Feb. 26.-Mr. Grogan, an African traveler, who has been exploring the volcanic region in the neighborhood of Lake Tanganyika, found several active volcanoes, which are discharging enormous streams of lava. One valley, forty miles by sixty, was filled in two years with lava to a depth in some places of a hundred feet. The devastation is indescribable Forests and herds of elephants have been

The country is overrun by ferocious nomadic cannibals, called Baleka, from the Congo Valley. They have almost depopulated what was formerly a densely occupied area. The raiders seem to have slaughtered recklessly. The paths are sometimes outlined with skeletons.

# SALMON CANNING COMBINE,

T. B. McGovern of New York Putting the Deal Through on Paget Sound. TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 26.-T. B. McGovern,

New York broker, has returned to San Francisco, carrying options on the largest salmon canneries located at Fairhaven and Anacortes. McGovern succeeded last year in forming a combination of Columbia River canneries in order to control prices. He is now trying to effect a combination of all the principal Puget Sound canneries outside of the Pacific-American Fisheries Company. which has the largest cannery in the world at Fair Haven. - Enough options have been secured to make it certain that eight canneries will join in this trust, which will also control important fish traps. The prices to be paid for the canneries range from \$80,000 to \$220,000. The prices to be paid for the canneries range from \$59,000 to \$3,0,000.

The combination will result in saving a large portion of the operating expenses, enough in in fact to permit the combine to undersell other packers. This will enable it to fix the market price of the canned product.

When McGovern's deal is completed practically the entire salmon interests of Puget Sound, amounting to millions, will be controlled by the Pacific-American Fisheries Company, at the head of which is Michael Cudahy of Chicago, the Alaska Packers' Association of San Francisco and McGovern's company, which is yet unnamed.

# TORTURE OF AN AGED NEGRO. Three Brothers in Kentucky Accused of

Committing a Wanton Murder.

BENTON, Ky., Feb. 26.-It is charged that John Thomas, an aged negro, was wantonly murdered on Saturday by John, James and Joseph Greer, who live in Marshall county. Joseph and James Greer have been arrested. The Greers were in Paducah on Saturday with a load of produce and they spent much of the proceeds of their sale for liquor, On their way home they picked up Thomas, who was walking to his home here. With who was waiking to his home here. With a pistol they forced the old man to get into their wagon. Then while one of the brothers held a pistol at his head, another forced him to drink a bottle of whiskey and some wine. Next they beat him on the head with a board and then, it is alleged, tied him to one of the wagon wheels and, whipping up their team, dragged him for a mile. When they came to a creek, they plunged him time and again in the cold water until he was nearly dead. Finally they shot him three times and then three his body on a fence, where it was found yesterday morning.

and vesterday morning.
At the Coroner's inquest to-day the pury and John James and Joseph Greet responsie for the murder. John Greet has escaped. The Firs Ra way in he World to adout for all its cars the Putsch light is the New York Central. This line has Plutsch light in its sleeping and parker cars, its coaches, beggaze cars and mai cars, contributing in this, as in all other things, to the comfort and safety of its patrons.—

SAMPSON REPLIES TO CONCAS. Misstatements Made by the Commander of

Boston, Feb. 26. - Admiral William T. Sampson, who commanded the American squadron which defeated the Spanish squadron off Santiago on July 3, 1898, denies in many particulars the statements contained in the report made to the Spanish Naval Department by Capt. Coneas, mander of the cruiser Infanta Maria Teresa. Capt. Concas's allegation that Sampson deliberately had the Cristobal Colon pulled off into deep water,

when by sending a diver down to close the sea

valves he could have saved the vessel, is de-

clared by Admiral Sampson to be false. Admiral Sampson said: "The Cristobal Colon surrendered, ran ashore and members of her crew broke her sea valves. Her Captain, after he came aboard revive public confidence in England. The the New York, assured me that the Colon was in good order. He took his meals with me on board the New York, and more than once assured me that his ship was in good order. The Colon floated off without any assistance, and Capt. Chadwick pushed her back on shore, where she now lies. At low tide she is about ten feet dry As I said before, the Captain said he had not injured her. This statement was, of course,

injured her. This statement was, of course, disproved. The valves had been broken and could not be closed. I accused the Captain of having broken the valve stems. He declared that if it was done the engineer did it and that if was without his knowledge or consent.

"The fact that the ship had been sunk after she had surrendered made me recommend that the commanding officer be retained on board or that he be shot as having destroyed public property which after her surrender belonged to the captor. I made the same recommendation in regard to the captain of the Sandoval, who sank his ship after the surrender at Santiago and several days after he had received a letter from me warning him that he was no longer at liberty to do injury to the vessel. He deserved to be shot, but I did not see just how we were to get at it."

Referring to the statement of Capt Concas that the famous loop which the Brooklyn took was the only thing that saved her from being rammed by the Maria Teresa. Admiral Sampson said: "That is not so. The Maria Teresa was miles away from the Brooklyn, at least thousands of yards from her, at all times of the fight."

Ident. Frnest L. Bennett. Admiral Sampson's aid, who was with him at the battle of Santiago, said that the Spanish Captain's statement in regard to sending divers down to stop the holes was absurd. It would not have been justifiable. They would have been working on the ship's bottom while she was listing all the time. They would have been in danger of losing their lives. No military ends were to be furthered by this risk; only property could be saved. It was evident she was filling all the time, and that she was likely to go down at once. As a matter of fact, if divers had been sent down then, as this Spanish Captain recommends, the chances are they would all have been lost. The man who wrote the article was on board the Teresa forty miles away and he had to take a good deal of his story from hearsay. His actual knowledge of the affairs on board the Cristobal Colon must have been very limited. Lieut, Ernest L. Bennett, Admiral Samp-

# BRITISH GENERAL FROWNS.

Lord Seymour Objects to a Comic Opera

With a Cowardly Officer Role. HALIFAX, N. S., Feb. 26,-Gen. Lord William Seymour, who commands the British forces in North America with headquarters at Halifax. does not approve of the presentation at the local theatre of "The Scarlet Tunic," a comic opera written by a Halifax man and produced by amateurs of this city. The principal character is a Major-General, who, whenever he hears of the possibility of active service, develops an attack of rheumatism. So soon as news comes of a measurement of hostilities the Major-General's rheumatism disappears. Audiences laugh heartily at this display of cowardice by the officer, and the overa has had a great run.

great run.

Geb. Lord Seymour had promised the production his patronage, but when he heard of this feature he showed his displeasure by staying away from the theatre. The city and garrison are much amused over his action.

BOILER TRAVELS HALF A MILE. The Explosion That Started It Killed One

Man and Injured Another. YPSILANTI, Mich., Feb. 26.-Boiler No. 1, at the Ypsilanti Paper Company's superior mill. exploded to-night dislodging its four companion boilers and totally wrecking the boiler house. One employee, William Horton, was

instantly killed and another, March.

The boiler was carried a distance of nearly half a mile and landed on the farm of A. J. Knapp. Accident insurance covers the death and injury of the employees, and steam boiler insurance covers the loss on boilers. The boilers had just been overhauled and eqipped with the latest appliances. The cause of the with the latest appliances.

#### PICTURE MACHINE BLAZES UP. But the Ushers Prevent a Panic in Miner's 125th Street Theatre.

The moving picture machine which throws the pictures that close the performance at Miner's 125th street theatre this week, caught fire while it was being operated last night, owing to defective insulation of the wires sup-plying the electric power. The big machine was wheeled out into the lobby with bue flames spitting out in every direction. Manager E. D. Miner sent his employees through the house and they shouted that there was no danger and begged the audience to keep their seats. The advice was heeded and there was no panic.

# DELEGATES TO PHILADELPHIA. Some of the Republicans Who Will Represent

This County at the National Convention. Republicans who have been thinking about the coming National Convention declared \$5,000,000 has taken shape. The promotors yesterday that the delegation from New York county would be made up of strong men and that the names of many of four States. They propose to form a corpora-the delegates had been decided upon tion to be known as the Consolidated Oyster already. It is expected that Gen. already. It is expected that Gen. Francis V. Greene, ex-Secretary of the Interior Cornelius N. Bliss, Charles Stewart Smith, Lispenard Stewart, John Sabine Smith, Lemuel E. Quigg, John Reisenweber, Edward Lauterbaen, Charles A. Hess and William H. Ten Eyck will be in the delegation, George R. Sheldon and Frank H. Platt have also been spoken of.

Several months ago the friends of President Low of Columbia University were urging him as a delegate, It developed yesterday that President Low had made up his mind that he did not want the honor, and he has requested his friends to refrain from urging his election.

# La Normandie Not in Yet.

The steamship La Normandie, due by schedule on Sunday, but a Monday or Tuesday boat in westerly gales, did not arrive yesterday. Among her passengers is M. Henri de Regnier, who is to lecture on French poetry before the Cercie Français at Harvard. Mrs. de Regnier

#### A Second Gift of \$10,000, New Haven, Feb. 26-Henry F. English.

son of the late Gov. James English of this city, gave \$10,000 to-day to the Young Men's Christian Association building fund. This makes \$20,000 received by the fund within three days, the other \$10,000 coming from L. Hayes Trowbridge of this city.

#### Typesetting Machine Company Incorporated.

The Dow Composing Machine Company for the manufacture of typesetting machines was incorporated here to-day with a capital stock of \$3,000,000. The incorporators are Evan J. Durley, William H. Brearley and Kenneth K. McLaren.

The small tug Pontiae which carries ammunition between the Navy Yard in Brooklyn and Fort La'ayette in the Narrows was blown on the rocky shore near Fort Lafavette yester-day morning. She was floated again at high tide. She was not damaged.

City Superintendent of Public Schools W. H. Maxwell is dangerously ill with grip at his bome, 682 Greene avenue, Brooklyn. FLOUTS GRUBER'S CHARGES

WILBUR SAYS CENSUS, NOT POLITICS, IS ENGAGING HIM NOW.

Has No Time to MK Up in Faction Fights and Flatly Denies Using Patronage of His "Office" to Help Austin Out in His Contest for District Leadership.

Charles S. Wilbur, Supervisor of the Census for this district, said yesterday that he was not alarmed in the least by the announcement made by Col. Abraham Gruber on Sunday that charges were to be filed with Director Merriam against his management of the census office here. Mr. Wilbur said that he was running a machine to get population statistics, and was as busy as he wanted to be doing that without mixing up in any kind of a political contest. factional or otherwise

"Col. Gruber," said Mr. Wilbur, "is making a hard fight for the leadership of his district, and I suppose that he will use whatever ammunition he can lay his hands on in trying to knock out the men who are opposed to him. In his charges against me, if he really intends to make any, he cannot prove anything other than that I have been seeking to get the most competent men I can for enumerators. We have a blank which is furnished free to all persons who apply for work. This blank con tains questions intended to show the applicant's ability and experience, which are to be answered in writing. Col. Gruber can have as many of the blanks as he wants. I don't know

many of the blanks as he wants. I don't know whether he has any or whether Mr. Austin has any, but lots of men have them.

When these blanks are filled out they are returned to me. Here is one that just came in through the mail. This man answers all the questions satisfactorily. I don't know who he is. He's reterred me to the librarian of the Free Circulating Library, and it's probable that he'll get a job. This is the only one I have looked at, for we won't begin to engage enumerators until after April 1. Then we will go over all the applications, and the men who we think are best fitted to do the work will get it. The indorsement of any politician won't make any difference, because we are going to take a census and not try to affect political make any difference, because we are going take a census and not try to affect political flights one way or another."

Mr. Wilbur has received word from Director Merriam that a plan suggested by him to gather statistics of residents of this city who gather statistics of residents. Merriam that a pian suggested by him to gather statistics of residents of this city who are out of town on June 1, the census day, will be put into effect. Mr. Wilbur called Gov. Merriam's attention last October to the fact that many New Yorkers were not in their city homes on June 1. During the Director's visit here several weeks ago they had a talk about this question, and Mr. Wilbur suggested that with the cooperation of the Post Office Department the difficulty might be overcome. His plan is to have the letter carriers distribute cards to every family in the city late in March or early in April, calling attention to the census, and requesting that the head of the family inform the Department whether his family is to be in town on June 1, and, if not, where some member of the family can be found on that day to give the information desired by the bureau.

Mr. Wilbur has also received assurances from the Police Commissioners that they will aid him in every war took and the footen the police commissioners that they will aid him in every war took and the footen the police that they wall aid him in every war took and the footen the police that they wall aid him in every war took and the police the second the police that they wall aid him in every war took and the police the second that they wall aid him in every war took and the police that they wall aid him in every war took at the police that they wall and the police that they wall the footen the police that they wall they are the police that they wall the police the police that they wall the police they want to the police they are the police that they wall the police

Mr. Wilbur has also received assurances from the Police Commissioners that they will aid him in every way to get all the facts that the Government wants from the residents of the city. Enumerators for other censuses have found great difficulty in convincing many of the more ignorant residents of the city that they were on a legitimate errand. When such persons are encountered by the enumerators this year, they will have the policemen at their this year, they will have the policemen at their backs to convince all persons that they are all

night.

More than 500 women have applied for jobs as enumerators in this district. There are to be about eleven hundred enumerators, and Mr. Wilbur is convinced that he could get the entire number from among the women of New York.

President Quigg of the Republican County
Committee said yesterday that in his opinion
Col. Gruber was engaged in a well-planned
effort to make votes for Tammany Hall.

DUAL GOYERNMENT IN KENTUCKY. Certificates for Minor State Offices Given to Democratic Contestants.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 26.-The State Board of Election Commissioners rendered a decision to-day giving certificates to the Democratic contestants for minor State offices. The Demomand upon the Republican officials for the offices. The Republicans declined to recognize the certificates. The Democratic contestants were sworn in nevertheless and they filed bonds with Beckham as Governor. The offices involved are those of Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Agriculture and Attor-ney-General. Suits for the offices will be

tion, Commissioner of Agriculture and Attorney-General. Suits for the offices will be brought.

The two State Governments are now complete, each pretending to be the lawful and rightful government. The contestants for the offices of Auditor and Treasurer have notified Sheriffs and collecting agents of the State not to pay any more money to Auditor Sweeney and Treasurer Day, the Republicans. There are said to be ninety-three Democratic Sheriffs out of 119 in the State. The Sheriffs and others having money to pay to the State will not pay it to either government until the controversy is settled. State bills will probably be tied up for several months until the matter is settled. Legislators to-day made a rush to get their salaries before the contests were decided, as the Democratic clerks of the Legislature will not issue warrants on Republican officials and the Democratic clerks of the Legislature Glamants have no funds, with which to pay state bills.

John Henry Wilson who received 108 votes for Circuit Judge in the Clay county district in which Judge Brown was holding by appointment, received a certificate from the Election Board. Wilson said he would to-morrow file an application before both Governments for a certificate from the Secretary of State.

# A BIG OYSTER COMBINE.

It Has Acquired Options on \$4,000,000

Worth of Property in Four States. NEW HAVEN, Feb. 26.-The movement to form an oyster trust with a capital of about have been at work for a long time securing options on oyster grounds in the waters of Company, with headquarters in New York city. Those interested declare that while it is intended to be a big combination in which hundreds of small oystermen's interests will

be merged it will be in no wise a trust.

In the four States in the waters of which the new company is to operate options on grounds and property of oystermen valued at \$4,000,000 have been bought. The purchases include, besides the oyster grounds and stock, the entire working plant, including steamers, dredges, &c. The company estimates that it will distribute in the market the bulk of the oysters used, or nearly 4,000,000 bushels every season. The Consolidated Oyster Company will acquire a fleet of 150 steamers and about sixty thousand acres of grounds in Long Island Sound, including beds in Narragansett Bay, R. I. This does not include the oyster grounds in the waters of New York and New Jersey. The syndicate does not pretend to do a shucking business, but will control the seed and stock that is pat upon the market in shell.

The representatives of the syndicate have two months in which to examine the property upon which the options have been obtained. be merged it will be in no wise a trust.

# VANCOUVER'S STEVEDORES' STRIKE.

ployment of American Sailors. VANCOUVER, B. C., Feb 26.-The stevedores' strike against the Pacific Coast Steamship Company has assumed international importance. The steamship company is working a big gang of men who have signed articles as sailors, and, as the international law gives seamen the right to work in any country, on ship and wharf in handling freight, the all call law cannot be enforced.

Mayor Garden has taken the side of the men and has asked United States Consul Edwin Fuglicy to wire to Washington asking for an opinion on the question of whether the American seamen at present loading the steamships of the American company are not allens in Canada, so that Consul Dudley may speak with authority. ing a big gang of men who have signed arti-Canda, so that consu: Dudley may speak with authority.

In the menet me the two boss stevedores hered by the company are walking about the whorf with their guns sticking out of their pockets and a row is imminent.

Double Daily Service to Atlantic City via Pennsylvania Radroad. Leaves West 13d St. Station 1955 A. M. and 2: M. weekdays. Two lastest trains to the shore. fet Park r Cars.—Ade.

WILL OF P. D. ARMOUR, JE.

An Estate of \$8,000,000 Given to ills Widow and His Two Sons.

CHICAGO, Feb. 26. - An estate valued at \$8,000,000 is disposed of by the will of Philip D. Armour, Jr., which was filed in the Probate Court to-day. Of this \$6,800,000 is in personal | The Title Changed to Read "A Bill to Proproperty and \$1.200,000 in real estate. Onethird of the estate, and the testator's residences in Chicago and at Summit Wis, are given to the widow, Mrs. May E. Armour, and twothirds are given in trust to three executors for the benefit of the two surviving sons of the testator. The executors are: J. Ogden

testator. The executors are: J. Ogden
Armour, May E. Armour and P. Auderson Valentine. The children are Philip
D. Armour, third, and Lester Armour. Out
of the income of the estate sufficient money
is to be expended for the maintenance and
education of the two children. This allowance
is not to be less than \$10,000 a year for each.
When the children are 21 the property is to be
divided between them.
"It is my wish," says the closing paragraph
of the will, "that the capital stock I own in the
Armour Packing Company of Kansas City, and
my interest in the co-partnership of Armour
& Company shall be converted into money
or other securities independent of those concerns as soon as the executors and surviving
partners think the same may be done without
detriment to the estate or the interests of my
surviving partners, who shall have a preference on the sale or disposal thereof."
Nothing is left to charitable or educational
institutions.

# DOWNTOWN FIREMEN BUSY.

A Steamship and a Molasses Factory Afire -Cold Work.

The firemen downtown were kept busy last night. One alarm from Rector and West streets turned them out a few minutes after 8 o'clock. They hadn't had time to house their engines when they were called to Roosevelt and Cherry streets. Again the horses were scarcely stalled when two alarms came in from Pier 3, East River. The Bahama Line steamer Antilia was aftre. She plies between Stamford, Conn., New York and Nassau. She got here from Stamford last Wednesday and was to have sailed for Nassau with lumber on Saturday, but was delayed. The fire began in the officers' messroom and spread to the forward hold, which was full of lumber. The engine and the fireboat New Yorker pumped her fore hold full of water. The damage was placed at \$500.

The firemen were going home again when Policeman Jewett came running up with the news that the smolasses factory of Henry Adams & Co., at 53 Front street, corner of Cuyler's alley, was on fire. He told Chief Croker that the warehouses of the Manhattan Oil Company adjoined the burning building and the Chief promptly turned in three alarms. The fire kept the men busy until 11 o'clock. The loss was estimated by the police as \$15,000. The firemen were pretty well chilled through by this time. It was a cold night on the river front. spread to the forward hold, which was full of

#### MILTON RATHBUN EATS AGAIN. Mount Vernon Man Said He Had Fasted

for Thirty-five Days. Milton Rathbun, the Mount Vernon business man who said he had been fasting since Jan. 21, broke his fast on Sunday evening. Mr. Rathbun abstained from food to reduce his weight, which was 207 pounds. It had been his intention to fast for forty days, but on Sunday night, as he put it yesterday, he was taken day night, as he put it yesterday, he was taken with a sudden hunger and decided that his fast had gone far enough. He are a dozen blue point oysters, five crackers and two oranges, and drank two-thirds of a cup of bouilion and a cup of weak tea. Except that he found himself very weak. Mr. Rathbun does not believe that his health has been injured. He says he believes that he is the better for not having eaten in thirty-five days. He did not lose a day from his business during the fast. His weight was reduced to 164 pounds.

# FOUR MEN FALL 130 PEET.

An Accident in a Mining Shaft Near Scranton Caused by Carelessness. SCRANTON, Pa., Feb. 26, - At the Mount Pleasant mine near here this morning, as the carriage was descending with four men on it at the Clark veins it struck one of the fans. which had been carelessly permitted to obtrude into the shaft. One side of the carriage was crushed in and that side of the floor dropped, precipitating the four men to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of 150 feet.

Fans are shelves which are thrown out as supports for the carriage while cars are being loaded on it. They should be thrown back into place when not in use, but some one forgot to do so in this case and four deaths resulted. The dead are William Gilbert, a driver; John Regan, a laborer; Thomas Williams, a laborer, and Frank Woodward, a drilling machine operator. All leave families. which had been carelessly permitted to ob-

# NAVAL MAGAZINE NEAR THIS CITY.

Board of Officers in Session at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to Decide on a Site. president, and which is holding secret sessions at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, was convened at the request of the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department to decide on a site for of the Navy Department to decide on a site for a magazine near New York city. A great many sites were found to be suitable, but nearly all of these were unavailable on account of the law of New York State against the storage of explosives within a prescribed distance of a public highway. A site on some island in New York harbor is desired. Sites on Bedloes Island and Staten Island could not be obtained on account of objections, in which the Navy Department felt bound to acquiesce.

# THE STRANDED CALIFORNIAN.

Passengers Taken Off, Cargo Seriously Dam aged and Vessel in Bad Condition. PORTLAND, Me., Feb. 26.-The twenty-one passengers on the Allan Line steamship Californian, which was stranded just outside of this harbor, were brought up to this city today. The crew remains on board. The lightering of the vessel's cargo was begun to-night Most of the cargo is of a perishable nature, and as the water is from twenty to twenty-five feet deep in the hold the loss will be heavy. The Allan Line manager is hopeful of saving the ship after her cargo is taken off, but the fact that none of her water-tight compartments escaped flooding shows that her bottom is in a bad condition from stem to stern.

PUERTO RICO TARIFF BILL

PRICE TWO CENTS.

AMENDMENTS AGREED TO AT LAST N. GHT'S R. PUBLICAN CONFERENCE.

vide Temporary Revenue to Puerte Rico," and the Per Cent, of the Dingley Tariff Rates Reduced From 25 to 15-This.

It Is Believed Will Secure Its Passage. WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.-The conference of Republican Representatives on the Puerto Rico Tariff bill to-night by practically unanimous vote advised the adoption of such changes in the measure as it is believed, when made, will secure its passage by the House. Chairman Cannon at the adjournment of the conference at 11 o'clock made the following statement of its work and result:

It was the sense of the conference, expressed by a rising vote, that the Ways and Means Committee be requested to offer amendments to the pending bill as follows: Amend the title so as to read. 'An act temporarily to provide revenues for the relief of the island of Puerto Rico and four other purposes. and add a new section declaring that this act shall be taken and held to be provisional in its purposes, intended to meet a pressing present need for revenue for the sland of Puerto Rico, and shall not continue in force after March 11, 1902; also to strike out 25, referring to the percentage of the rates in the Dingley ill to be imposed on the commerce between the United States and Puerto Rico and insert 15. It was also agreed that the Committee on Ways and Means should be requested to offer an amendment to make plain the provision of the bill relating to internal revenue, so that it shall be understood that there shall be but one payment of interna

revenue tax upon Puerto Rican products." Mr. Cannon interrupted the statement to give the votes on the proposed amendments. Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan offered the one changing the tariff rate from 25 to 15 per cent. it was agreed to 105 to 11. The others were offered by Mr. Payne, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and they were agreed to by a vote of 111, no one rising when the negative was called for. Continuing Mr. Carnon said:

"The various amendments, as well as general conditions, were discussed by many members in the best of temper and there was a substantially unanimous determination manifested that the Republican majority of the House should register its will by the votes of its members touching the amendments and passage of the bill. I have never attended a conference of Republicans where there was a more manifest purpose to arrive at a proper conclusion. It was the opinion on all hands that the bill is not understood by the country; that it is in fact a bill for the relief and immediate relief of Puerto Rico; that it does not oppress the people of Puerto Rico, but provides a small taxation, levied on goods exported from and imported into the United States and Puerto Rico, to and from each other. the proceeds of which are to be devoted to the needs of Puerto Rico. Instead of being oppressive and an injustice, it is the most equitable and speedy way of levying a tax, with the least burden to Puerto Rico An amendment will be made declaring that it is provisional and temporary in its nature as well as urgent; make plain what is the inten tion of Congress should the bill be enacted into law; and that it is to provide for an emergency. In the early future, if the condition improves and the capacity to raise revenue is developed, it is the intention to remit to them the whole problem of raising revenues to carry on their local Government that is to be provided for them. The bill, in its amended shape, will, it is estimated, furnish a evenue of \$1.600,000 a year It is the expectation of the leaders of the

five to nine votes from the minority. This is the largest number yet claimed from that side, and it is not conceeded by the Democrats at When the hill reaches the Senate, if it should meet that experience, it is the intention of Senator Foraker, chairman of the Committee on Affairs in Puerto Rico, to substitute for it WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Board of Naval his bill providing a form of government for the Officers, of which Capt. Henry C. Taylor is Island, which includes the provision to make the tariff on commerce to and from the island and the United States 25 per cent, of the rates

majority that not to exceed six, and possibly

only five, Republicans votes will be cast

against it, or for the motion to recommit. As

the Republician majority is fifteen, it will

require eight adverse votes from their

ranks to defeat or recommit the measure. Be-

sides, the managers confidently rely on from

in the Dingley law and send the bill to conference. The conference was somewhat more largely attended than on Saturday, there being about one hundred and twenty-five Republicans preent. All the floor leaders of the House and Speaker Henderson were there and also the prominent opponents of the bill. The officers of the caucus presided, Mr. Cannon of I lino's in the chair, and Mr. Loudenslager of New

Jersey, secretary. Mr. Shattue of Ohio opened the discussion. saying that if he had assurances that the President was in favor of the bill and was satisfied of its constitutionality he would surrender his own opinion and support the bill. He asked for something more definite than "talk under the hat."

Mr. Corliss of Michigan, responding to Mr.

Shattuc, said he had seen the President la'.

this afternoon and knew that he was sincerely anxious for the passage of the bill; that he was perfectly satisfied of its constitutionality. Mr. Corliss was supported in this statement by Mr. Payne, chairman of the Ways and Means Com-

that none of her water-tight compariments escaped flooding shows that her bottom is in a bad condition from stem to stern.

\*\*CUT A COMMERCIAL CABLE\*\*,

Judgment for \$5,000 Damages Given Against the Schooner William H. Bailey.

New Haven, Feb. 26.—In the United States Court to-day Judge Townsend decided for the plaintiff in the case of the Commercial Cable Company of New York against the schooner William H. Bailey, and awarded the plaintiff \$5,000 damages. The schooner on Dec. 27, 1888, anchored during a gaie in Gowanus Bay, below New York city. After the storm had subsided the crew attempted to pull up the anchor and found it caught on the cable. The crew thereupon cut the cable with a meat saw.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Señor Corea, the Minister of Nicaragua, called on Secretary Hay to-day and informed him that Nicaragua had no designs on Costa Rican territory and Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. H. C. Smith of Michigan. Who has been Mr. H. C. Smith

Mashington, Feb. 26.—Señor Corea, the Minister of Nicaragua and on Secretary Hay to-day and informed him that Nicaragua had no designs on Costa Rican territory and that his country was at peace. Minister Calvo of Costa Rica called also, supposedly on the same business. There is a disposition in other and peace that the reports from Central America that Nicaragua and Costa Rica are at swords points grew out of the gathering in Nicaragua of exiled Costa Ricans, who are said to be preparing to invade Costa Rican territory.

The President Will Be Here on Saturday.

Washington, Feb. 26.—President McKinley has accepted the invitation of the Ohio Soc ety of New York to attend its annual banquet in the that the President will leave Washington on Friday and spend Saturday in New York.

The New York to attend the Costa Ricans, two to charagos six to Clevelant: three to St. L. siis, two t-Che, mant, two to F qonto, four to Montreal, have to Decroit, twelve to Buffalo and Nizarra Falis, including the famous Eapire State Express, sixteen between New York and Albany and Troy.—Ads.

Mr. Littlefield of Maine, who has been about the same strain.

Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been unable to give the bill as tweek, spoke in about the same strain.

Mr. H. C. Smith of Michigan, who has been unable to give the bill in its present shape his support, offered for the consideration of the Conference an amendment reducing the conference an amendment reducing the per cent, of the Dingley tariff rates to be collected from 25 to 15. Mr. Smith's proposition was greefed with application of the bill to provide temporary revenue for provide temporary revenue for provide temporary revenue for provide temporary revenue for providing its providing a form of government or Puerto Rico, "and to add a section declaring the temporary revenue for providing a form of government for Pue